

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-04 AID-05 CU-02 NIC-01 SCS-03

SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 A-01

OPR-01 /076 W

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R 101200Z JAN75

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2206

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THESSALONIKI 010

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SEDU, GR

SUBJECT: DISRUPTIONS AT THESSALONIKI UNIVERSITY

MEDICAL SCHOOL

1. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PAPERS OF JANUARY 10, STUDENTS OF THESSALONIKI UNIV MEDICAL SCHOOL MET DURING PREVIOUS TWO DAYS TO VOTE ON 5-DAY ABSTENTION FROM CLASSES FOLLOWED BY OCCUPATION OF MEDICAL SCHOOL BUILDING TO DRAMATIZE NEED FOR "DE-JUNTAIZATION" OF FACULTY AND SPECIFIC DEMAND FOR REMOVAL OF CONTROVERSIAL PROFESSOR ANTHIMOS CHRISTOFORIDES. MEDICAL STUDENTS ALSO REPORTEDLY PLAN TO URGE STUDENTS OF OTHER FACULTIES AS WELL AS UNIVERSITIES OF ATHENS, PATRAS AND IOANNINA TO TAKE SIMILAR ACTION.

2. PROFESSOR CHRISTOFORIDES, WHO IS US CITIZEN AND ALSO DIRECTOR OF LOCAL THEAGENION CANCER INSTITUTE, HAS BEEN UNDER INCREASING FIRE FROM STUDENTS BECAUSE OF ALLEGED JUNTA ASSOCIATIONS. WHILE HE HAS BECOME PARTICULAR TARGET IN RECENT WEEKS, NUMEROUS OTHER PROFESSORS HAVE REPORTED TO CONGEN SIMILAR PRESSURE

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AND CRITICISM FROM STUDENT GROUPS, WHICH SOME BELIEVE
TO BE INSPIRED BY SOURCES OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY.

3. AS OF EARLY JAN 10, NUMEROUS PLACARDS EVIDENT
OUTSIDE MEDICAL SCHOOL URGING STUDENTS TO BOYCOTT
CLASSES. WHILE ONE ANNOUNCEMENT CALLS FOR RALLY TO
TAKE OVER BUILDING AT 1500 HOURS JAN 10, OTHERS URGE
FURTHER MEETINGS TO FORMULATE PLANS. BOYCOTT, IN ANY
CASE, ONLY PARTIALLY EFFECTIVE AND SOME MEDICAL SCHOOL
CLASSES AND LABORATORIES OPERATING NORMALLY.

4. ACTIVITIES OF MEDICAL STUDENTS FOLLOW OPENING OF
CLASSES AT ALL LOCAL UNIVERSITY FACULTIES THIS WEEK,
IN MANY CASES FOR FIRST TIME THIS ACADEMIC YEAR. MOST
FACULTY MEMBERS WITH WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN REMAIN
PESSIMISTIC ABOUT RESTORATION OF VIABLE ACADEMIC CLIMATE
ON LOCAL CAMPUS THIS YEAR.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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